



# A most

godly enstruction

and very necessarie lesson  
to be learned of all chris-  
ten men and womē,  
befoze they come to  
Communion of  
the bodie & bloud  
of our sauiour  
Christe  
Jesus.

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# Annals

of the

Church of England

from the

beginning

to the

present

time

by

John

Wesley

Esq.



Unt Peter sayeth that  
oure aduersary the de-

i. Peter. h

uyl, lyke a royinge lion  
goeth aboute sekynge

whom he may deuour. So that  
his earnest studie and purpose is  
euer fixed, other wth fierce cru-  
elty or wth pleasaunte suggestiō  
or wth impoꝛtune hote tempta-  
cion, to allure and entise man, to  
disobeye goddes lawe, whereby  
he myght bringe man, into lyke  
misery and eternall payne where-  
in he nowe lustily suffereth. But  
if he can not atteyne his purpose  
by these meanes befoꝛe declared:  
then he transfigureth and chaun-  
geth hym selfe, into an Angell of  
lighte, and pretendeth to setfoꝛth  
and maynteyne religion, takynge  
some text and parte of holy scrip-  
ture to bee hys whole authoritie  
pꝛinciple & ground. So that bring-  
inge and allegynge foꝛ hym, the  
ho-

Mat. lxxx.

holye scripture: no man shall mis-  
truste any disceyte or euyl in hys  
proceedinges, and then moſte cra-  
fte elpe he intendeth to diſceyue e-  
uen as he entended to diſceyue  
Chriſte, colouring hys malyciouſe  
entent, with authorities of holpe  
ſcripture. Euen ſo he wyth lyke  
diſceyte and policy and wyth no  
leſſe malice towardes man (hear-  
inge thys promiſſe of Chriſte, he  
that eateth my fleſhe & drinketh  
my bloude dwelleth in me and I  
in him) hath inuented the doctryn  
of tranſubſtanciacion, of breadye  
into Chriſtes naturall body, and  
of wyne into Chriſtes naturall  
bloude, by force of certayne wordes  
ſpoken by the pꝛieſt.

And ſo by the clerenes of the  
wordes ſpoken by a pꝛieſt: wyl  
perſwade the Ignorant people,  
wyth lyke ſonde opinion where-  
with þe Caparnites wer led, to be-  
leue

Ieue that they myghte eate Chry-  
stes fleſhe w<sup>th</sup> they<sup>r</sup> teeth, and  
dryncke and ſwallowe Chryſtes  
bloude w<sup>th</sup> their throtte, frome  
the whiche groſſe opinion Chryſt  
perſwaded the ſaide Caparnites  
to leaue, ſayinge. Dooe theſe my  
ſaynges offend you? What and  
you ſhal ſe the ſon of man aſcend  
wher he was befoze? It is the ſpi-  
rite that quickeneth, the fleſhe  
profiteſh not any thing. The de-  
uell not w<sup>th</sup>ſtanding thys doc-  
trine of Chryſt, wherby he taught  
the ſpirituell eatynge of his fleſh  
and drynkinge of his bloud, hath  
ſowed this falſe doctrine of tran-  
ſubſtanciation, in the hertes of  
greate clerkes byſhopes and of  
other ſpiritual paſtours, and wit  
tye babes of the worlde, that by  
ſuche teachers, and highe powrs  
the people myght be led, & taught  
to truſte, that they had ſufficient-  
ly

ly eaten Chyestes fleſhe, whē they  
haue eaten the ſacramente, wyth  
their teth & truſting to þe groſſe eat  
ing wyth their teth: thei ſhuld not  
enquire, noꝝ ſerch, foꝝ anye godly  
and ſpiritual eatynge of Chy-  
eſtes fleſhe, by ſayeth, whereby it  
myght be profitable to their ſou-  
les, foꝝ the which entent and pur-  
poſe all ſacramentes, were inſti-  
tuted & ordeyned, that is to feede  
the mynde, and not the mouth, to  
comfoꝛte the ſoule: and not the  
body, and all thys falſe doctryne  
of tranſſubſtanciacion the deuyl  
hath enduced thow the clernes  
of theſe wordes ſpoke by the pꝛiſt  
ſayug, this is mi bodi, although  
that thowe all the holpe ſcrip-  
tures, where they entreate of ſa-  
cramentes, they euer call ſacra-  
mentes by the ſame name of the  
thinges wherof they be ſacramē-  
tes, as it appereth the. xviij. of Ge-  
neſis, where circumſicion is cal-  
led

led goddes couenaunte, whiche  
was but the sacramente thereof,  
and in the .xlii. of Exodi where the  
Easter lambe, was called the pa-  
ssouer of the Lord, which was but  
a sacrament therof. And the Cha-  
lice is called the newe testamente  
which is but the sacrament ther-  
of, yea Christ is called syn, which  
was onely the sacrifice for synne,  
And therfore Christen reader be  
not disceyued by the clearnes of  
the wordes, but conferre and trie  
the scriptures, by other places of  
holy scripture diligently readyng  
this litel treatise folowing, wher  
in þu shalt find, I trust a spiritual  
eating of christis flesh & drinking  
of his bloude, taughte by the pri-  
matue churche and the auncient  
holy fathers, whiche dyd wyte of  
the same, before the deuyll hadde  
corrupted the holy scripture with  
false gloses and wicked interpre-  
ta-

tacions. And thys I commytte  
the gentle reader to almyghtye  
**GOD** who geue the hys spirite  
whereby thou mayste haue  
the true vnderstandynge  
and swete taste of his ho-  
ly worde and spirituall  
eatinge of hys fleshe  
to thy spiritual co-  
moditie and eter-  
nall healthe of  
thy soule.

**Amen**



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